



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **CHILD LABOR SEMINARS TO HELP EMPLOYERS** *KNOXVILLE SEMINARS OFFERED FOR FREE*

The Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development is launching a new program to inform employers of important points contained in the Child Labor Law.

Originally established to assist businesses found to have violations during inspections by the department, the Child Labor Law Seminars are now reaching out to all employers who hire minors and want to insure they are compliant with the Child Labor Act.

“Employers are hiring more and more workers under 18 years of age, and many employers are just not aware that there are laws protecting minors that they must follow,” said Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner James G. Neeley. “We’re inviting employers to attend these seminars to ask questions and to learn their legal responsibilities in the employment of minors.”

A minor must be 14 years of age to be gainfully employed, and specific proof of his age must be maintained at the employment location. Other requirements spelled out by the Child Labor Act and discussed at the seminars involve hours of work, breaks, and restricted occupations and work environments. The seminars will specifically address the Wage Regulation Act regarding vacation pay, final wages, rest breaks and more.

“The seminars last about an hour. You’ll become familiar with the statutes and will leave knowing what is required of you in employing minors, including documentation that must be maintained,” said Neeley.

The seminars are free and are open to employers, teachers, parents, and students statewide. The hour and a half seminars are presently offered at the Tennessee Career Center at 1610 University Avenue from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., every second Wednesday. The first seminar will be September 10. To register for the seminars, call (865) 594-6185. Seminar dates for the remainder of the year are October 8, November 12, and December 10.

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